

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 46-54, 56-68 and 70-74 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 53 and 66-68 are amended and claim 74 is added.

Applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement with this Amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiner Nghiem to Applicant's representatives during the October 27, 2004 personal interview. The personal interview is summarized below and thus constitutes Applicant's record of the interview.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 51, 52, 56-61 and 71-73 and the indication of allowability for claims 48, 50, 54, 63, 64, 68 and 70. However, for the reasons discussed below, all of the pending claims are allowable.

Claims 1, 46, 47 and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Shinada et al. (Shinada), U. S. Patent No. 5,790,158. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, Shinada fails to disclose an ink cartridge with a pressure reduction hole formed in the first cover, the pressure reduction hole directly communicating with the first chamber, wherein the first chamber and the second chamber communicate with each other near the second surface inside the case such that ink is filled in the first chamber through the second chamber from the ink filling hole, as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, Shinada fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1 as well as the additional features recited in the dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 53 and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Ceschin et al. (Ceschin), U. S. Patent No. 5,489,932. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview, Ceschin fails to disclose an ink cartridge with a first cover which is a separate part from the case and is joined to the case and the partitioning wall at the first surface for covering the first surface of the case, the first cover, the case and the partitioning wall forming a path for communicating between the ink chamber and the atmosphere connection path, wherein a part of the path is directly above a part of a lower surface of the cover, as recited in claim 53.

Ceschin also fails to disclose a path for connecting the first chamber and the atmosphere connection chamber, formed in the top wall, wherein the path and the first chamber are connected via a surface which does not contain an intersection line formed by the intersection of the lower surface and the top surface of the partitioning wall, wherein a part of the path is above the lower surface, as recited in claim 66. Ceschin fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 66 because a path is not formed above the lower surface of the upper wall 14c of Ceschin's ink container 10.

Accordingly, Ceschin fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 53 and 66. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

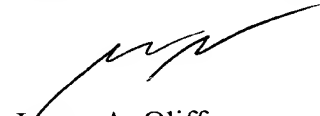
Claims 62 and 65 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shinada in view Kanaya et al. (Kanaya), U. S. Patent No. 6,247,803 and claim 67 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ceschin in view of Shinada. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

None of the applied references disclose or suggest all of the features recited in claims 1 and 66. Accordingly, none of the applied references disclose or suggest all of the features recited in the dependent claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 46-54, 56-68 and 70-74 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SMS/sxb

Date: November 9, 2004

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time  
Request for Continued Examination  
Amendment Transmittal  
Information Disclosure Statement

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